

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 10766

EXDIS

FOR SHLAUDEMAN FROM AMBASSADOR

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: US MX PFOR

SUBJECT: AGENDA FOR FORD-LOPEZ PORTILLO MEETING

1. WHILE WE HOPE TO BE ABLE TO REFINE IT FURTHER, THIS CABLE PROVIDES OUR FIRST EFFORT AT AN ANNOTATED AGENDA FOR THE SUBJECT MEETING. WE HAVE FOCUSED EQUALLY ON SUBJECTS WE CONSIDER IMPORTANT TO PRESIDENT-ELECT LOPEZ PORTILLO (JLP) AND OTHERS WE THINK WOULD BE USEFUL FOR THE US SIDE TO RAISE. NOT ALL ARE OF EQUAL IMPORTANCE.

2. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

A. ECHEVERRIA CANDIDACY FOR SECGEN POSITION-JLP RAISED THIS GINGERLY WITH THE SECRETARY HERE IN JUNE. AFTER ECHEVERRIA, NO ONE BENEFITS MORE THAN JLP BY ECHEVERRIA GETTING THE JOB AND THUS LEAVING THE COUNTRY. HE WILL BE ANXIOUS TO KNOW THE U.S. POSITION. (WE SHOULD NOT TAKE THE INITIATIVE ON THIS POINT).

B. MEXICO AND THIRD WORLD-HOW DOES JLP SEE MEXICAN ROLE? AS LEADER AND STIMULATOR ON THIRD WORLD INITIATIVES AND OF CONFRONTATION? AS BRIDGE BETWEEN FIRST AND THIRD WORLDS? AS MORE OR LESS IMPORTANT THAN ECHEVERRIA SAW IT?

3. BILATERAL RELATIONS

A. GENERAL-WE KNOW JLP'S ADVISERS AT LEAST ARE INTERESTED IN "INSTITUTIONALIZING" FURTHER OUR BILATERAL
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RELATIONS, THEIR PRIMARY CONCERN BEING FINDING WAYS TO

REDUCE MEXICAN UNEMPLOYMENT, PARTICULARLY IN THE COUNTRYSIDE, TO INCREASE MEXICAN FOOD PRODUCTION, AND TO REDUCE MEXICAN CURRENT ACCOUNTS DEFICIT: WE NEED TO KNOW WHAT THEY HAVE IN MIND.

B. ILLEGAL ALIENS-WE WILL WANT TO KNOW JLP'S THINKING ON THIS ISSUE. WILL HE CONTINUE ECHEVERRIA'S POLICY (SINCE OCT 74 MEETING WITH PRESIDENT FORD) OF NOT SEEKING RENEWAL OF BRACERO AGREEMENT? WHAT WILL HE WANT FROM US--SPECIAL ACCESS TO US MARKETS FOR MEXICAN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS? WE NEED TO HAVE A POSITIVE, HELPFUL POSTURE HERE. WE COULD POINT OUT THAT A BRACERO AGREEMENT IF IT WERE ACCOMPANIED BY POSITIVE MEXICAN STEPS TO STEM THE FLOW MIGHT BE OF INTEREST; BUT OTHERWISE IT WOULD GIVE US THE WORST OF BOTH WORLDS.

C. DEMOGRAPHIC PROBLEMS: THIS IS RELATED DIRECTLY TO ILLEGAL ALIENS. JLP HAS TOLD US OF HIS OWN CONCERNS RE POPULATION GROWTH. THIS SUBJECT IS SENSITIVE BUT MEETING MIGHT BE SUITABLE MOMENT TO EXPRESS OUR WILLINGNESS TO HELP IN ANY WAY THE GOM WOULD FIND POLITICALLY POSSIBLE.

D. ILLEGAL NARCOTICS--WE SHOULD EXPRESS APPRECIATION FOR GOM EFFORT AND OUR CONFIDENCE THAT THE PROGRAM WILL CONTINUE TO HAVE FULL GOM BACKING UNDER JLP.

E. BILATERAL TRADE-COM, AND DE OLLOQUI IN PARTICULAR, FEEL MEXICO'S ACCESS TO US MARKETS IS UNDULY RESTRICTED. WHILE JLP MAY NOT BE READY TO ASK FOR SPECIAL PREFERENCES FOR MEXICO, HE MAY ASK FOR SPECIAL CONSIDERATION ON SELECTED PRODUCTS, PARTICULARLY IN AGRICULTURE. (WE ARE STILL AWAITING PAPER FROM DE OLLOQUI ON THREE REQUESTS IN THIS AREA RAISED WITH SECRETARY-SEE STATE 200337.)

F. ENERGY POLICY-IF JLP IS TO DISCUSS THIS USEFULLY, WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT SOME PRIOR IDEA OF WHAT IS ON MIND OF USG SHOULD BE GIVEN HIM IN ADVANCE THROUGH THE EMBASSY.

G. US PRISONERS-WE NEED TO ALERT JLP TO US PUBLIC AND CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN PRISONER PROBLEM AND CONTINUING POTENTIAL FOR THIS MATTER TO HARM MEXICO'S IMAGE AND TO CAUSE STRESSES AND STRAINS BETWEEN US.

H. PESO PARITY-WE SHOULD MAKE KNOWN OUR CONTINUED WILLINGNESS TO HELP ON THIS ISSUE BY SWAP AGREEMENT.

I. DESTABILIZATION RHETORIC-WE SHOULD EXPRESS CONFIDENTIAL

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CERN OVER DESTABILIZATION REFLEX SYNDROME AS PHENOMENON INIMICAL TO PRODUCTIVE BILATERAL CLIMATE AND MAKE CLEAR OUR VIEW THAT US AND MEXICAN LONG RANGE INTERESTS COINCIDE.

J. PATENTS LAW- FOREIGN INVESTORS HAVE BEEN TROUBLED BY IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECENT LAW ON PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS. WE BELIEVE SOME PROVISIONS IN IT CONTRAVENE MEXICO'S OBLIGATIONS UNDER PARIS CONVENTION FOR PROTECTION OF INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY AND ARE ALSO A DISINCENTIVE FOR

INVESTMENT IN MEXICO. IT WOULD BE ADVISABLE TO LET JLP KNOW
OF OUR CONCERN AND TO ASCERTAIN HIS VIEWS ON THE LAW AND
ITS ADMINISTRATION.
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